

From: Margaret Schlosser
To: Department of Justice
Date: 1/10/02 2:59pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am non-plussed at the supposed 'remedy' for Microsoft wrong-doing. The 'remedy' is to enforce that Microsoft products are given even MORE exposure than previously?? This would give Microsoft an unfair advantage in the National School System.

Microsoft is not, nor ever will be, remorseful in any way. Indeed, the same practices (proprietary) practiced previously, were practiced throughout the Anti-Trust process.

By cloaking it's every pronouncement with 'for the good of the Consumers' Microsoft sought to influence everyone that any judgement against Microsoft was anti-consumer and bad for consumers. With the huge market share enjoyed by Microsoft, it's even MORE incumbent upon them to play fair.

This news indicates that Microsoft still seeks to impose it's standards over those of any other company by foul means, rather than fair.

> ZDNet UK > News > Story
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> <http://news.zdnet.co.uk/story/0,,t269-s2102244,00.html>
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>
> .Net vote rigging illustrates importance of Web services
>
> 15:31 Wednesday 9th January 2002 Peter Judge
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> In December, Java was more popular than .Net for building Web services,
> according to a ZDNet UK poll, but weeks later the position had
> dramatically reversed; investigation revealed just what lengths
> Microsoft will go to to promote its products
>
> Microsoft's .Net Web services technology appeared to experience a sudden
> massive boost in popularity over its rival Java, according to a poll run
> by ZDNet UK.
>
> By 21 December, more than two-thirds of the respondents (69.5 percent),
> said they planned to deliver some applications by Web services by the
> end of 2002, with a large majority of those (nearly half the total
> sample) planning to use Java. Only 21.5 percent said they planned to use
> Microsoft .Net -- less than the figure (23.5 percent) planning to use
> neither.
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- > But by the time the poll closed, on 5 January, the position had
- > dramatically changed, with three quarters of voters claiming to be
- > implementing .Net. This apparent sudden change of heart over the
- > Christmas period appears to be the result of a concerted campaign within
- > Microsoft.
- >
- > ZDNet UK logs reveal rather obvious vote rigging, and prove that it
- > originated from within Microsoft:
- >
- > A very high percentage of voters are from within the microsoft.com
- > domain.
- >
- > There is a very high incidence of people attempting to cast multiple
- > votes, even though the poll script blocked out most attempts at multiple
- > voting. The one that wins the prize made 228 attempts to vote. This
- > person was from within the microsoft.com domain.

I submit that the following is as true today as it was in the beginning of the Anti-Trust case:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2001/09/07/opinion/07FRI1.html>

- > The brunt of the case against Microsoft entailed coercive behavior by the
- > company to force Internet
- > service providers and computer makers to favor Microsoft's browser over
- > Netscape's. Competitors are
- > now complaining of similar behavior by Microsoft to use its Windows monopoly
- > to immunize its newer
- > products from real competition. Just last week European Union antitrust
- > regulators initiated an
- > inquiry into these claims.
- >
- > In its announcement yesterday, the Justice Department appeared to acknowledge
- > the urgent need for a
- > change in Microsoft's conduct. In addition to calling for "prompt, effective
- > and certain relief for
- > consumers," it said it would use a period of expedited discovery to
- > "investigate development in the
- > industry since the trial concluded, and to evaluate whether additional
- > conduct-related provisions are
- > necessary."
- >
- > Microsoft has a track record of showing little appreciation in its business
- > dealings for the magnitude
- > of the legal rulings against it. That is all the more reason for the
- > government to remain on the case
- > as the company aggressively seeks to become as dominant a platform for all
- > Internet services as it
- > currently is for PC software.

There is much more evidence out there..the DOJ should make every effort to right wrongs in this case. Please don't short-cut this issue due to the war on Terrorism.

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